

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

For

Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR)

Learning Collaborative for Louisiana Medicaid
Behavioral Health Agencies



Issued by

LSUHSC Center for Evidence to Practice



Application Release Date: Thursday, May 15, 2025

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, June 20, 2025

All applicants will be notified by Tuesday, July 1, 2025

Please direct questions to the Center for Evidence to Practice at

EvidencetoPractice@lsuhsc.edu

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	TRAINING OVERVIEW	3
A.	INTRODUCTION.....	3
B.	INFORMATION ABOUT THE LOUISIANA CENTER FOR EVIDENCE TO PRACTICE	3
C.	CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS.....	3
D.	TRAINING COMMITMENT EXPECTATIONS AND FORM.....	4
E.	TRAINING COSTS.....	4
2.	SCOPE OF WORK.....	4
A.	INFORMATION ABOUT EYE MOVEMENT DESENSITIZATION AND REPROCESSING	4
B.	TRAINING POPULATION.....	4
C.	TRAINING APPROACH	5
E.	LEARNING COLLABORATIVE APPROACH	5
F.	EMDR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT MEETINGS	6
G.	CONSULTATION CALLS	6
H.	EMDR APPLICATION TIMELINE.....	6
I.	EMDR VIRTUAL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS	7
J.	SUSTAINING EBP PRACTICE & ACHIEVING EBP QUALIFICATION	7
3.	APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS.....	7
A.	ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.....	7
B.	APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS	8
C.	INTRODUCTION TO EMDR ONLINE COURSE.....	8
D.	APPLICATION MATERIALS	8
E.	APPLICATION CHECKLIST.....	9
F.	NOTIFICATION OF APPLICATION STATUS.....	9
G.	NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY.....	9

1. TRAINING OVERVIEW

A. INTRODUCTION

The Center for Evidence to Practice (Center for E2P) has written this Request for Application (RFA) in order to identify behavioral health practitioners in Louisiana who are equipped to successfully participate in **Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR)** training and implementation.

Due to the identified need for Medicaid behavioral health services specific to children and their caregivers, EMDR has been selected by the Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) as an evidence-based program that will be expanded statewide. OBH has published a Medicaid service definition for EMDR in their [LA Medicaid Behavioral Health Services Provider Manual](#).

Through this Request for Applications (RFA), the Center for E2P and EMDR trainer and Consultant, Carol Miles, LCSW look forward to identifying a strong cohort to participate in this training and learning collaborative opportunity.

The **goal of this RFA** is to help providers determine if this EBP is a good fit for their clinicians, organization and children and families they service. *It should also help providers determine if they are able to commit to the expectations of participating in this training opportunity and of delivering the EBP.* The application requests information about the providers' qualifications, the services they provide to Medicaid-insured children and families, and readiness to participate in the training and to deliver the EBP. The E2P staff and trainer will be reviewing applications based on the ***Application and Selection Process (Section 3) to select providers that are best able to take advantage of this training opportunity and to sustain delivery of the EBP.***

B. INFORMATION ABOUT THE LOUISIANA CENTER FOR EVIDENCE TO PRACTICE

The Center for E2P is a partnership between the Louisiana Department of Health – Office of Behavioral Health and the Louisiana Health Sciences Center – School of Public Health, which is tasked with improving access to evidence-based behavioral health practices for Louisianan children and families insured by Medicaid. Our mission is to support the state and its agencies, organizations, communities, and providers in selecting and implementing evidence-based interventions to promote youth and family well-being, improve behavioral health outcomes, and address challenges related to sustaining quality practice. For more information on the E2P please visit our [website](#) and [subscribe](#) to our newsletter for updates.

C. CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

The Center is a social work pre-approval organization through the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners (LABSWE) for social workers. Additionally, the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) has approved the Center to be an Approved Continuing Education Provider (ACEP). Pending completion of training, complying with [Center Training Guidelines & Expectations](#), meeting the required amount of training minutes, and completing the end-of-training evaluation, participants should receive a CE certificate for their participation in this training opportunity. Individuals who do not meet the above criteria upon the conclusion of training will be issued a certificate of participation and can use the certificate to apply for continuing education credit independently with their respective licensing board

Center for Evidence to Practice: Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) RFA

upon renewal. For those whose credentials are outside of the LABSWE and NBCC; upon receiving the CE certificate, the Center encourages participants to submit the certificate to their licensing board for approval.

D. TRAINING COMMITMENT EXPECTATIONS AND FORM

Dedication and commitment to this training is the utmost importance to participating in this training opportunity. *These trainings would be a significant financial investment for practitioners if they were to participate on their own.* If an agency/practitioner is chosen for this opportunity, it is of no cost to them. With that in mind, **for each entity that is chosen for this training opportunity, we emphasize the importance of completing all the training components as intended.** Should an entity drop out of this opportunity, it can impact their selection in a future training opportunity offered through E2P.

All chosen applicants are required to commit to participating in the training in its entirety. Upon selection, all applicants will be required to complete a **TRAINING COMMITMENT** between the applicant and E2P. **As this is a free, state-funded training, all participants must demonstrate their commitment to participate in ALL training days and to actively use the training approach with clients.**

E. TRAINING COSTS

There will be no cost to agencies for the course itself; however, agencies must financially commit to the time and effort required to complete the training and the delivery of the EBP. Agencies and clinicians must set aside the allotted training time to fully participate in this training opportunity, including any expectations outside of training (e.g. reading training manuals and related materials, completing web-based training, changing operations to accommodate delivery of the EBP). *This means that agencies and clinicians must set aside the **allotted time for each of the required training days and times** to fully participate in this training opportunity.* For in-person training, the provider is responsible for covering the cost of travel and travel time. Training manuals will be provided by the Center for E2P.

2. SCOPE OF WORK

A. INFORMATION ABOUT EYE MOVEMENT DESENSITIZATION AND REPROCESSING

Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) Therapy is an evidence-based psychotherapy that treats trauma-related symptoms. EMDR therapy is designed to resolve unprocessed traumatic memories in the brain. The therapist guides the client to process the trauma by attending to emotionally disturbing material in brief, sequential doses, while at the same time focusing on an external stimulus. The most commonly used external stimulus in EMDR therapy is alternating eye movements; however, sounds or taps may be used as well.

B. TRAINING POPULATION

Children, adolescents and adults. EMDR therapy may be used with children as young as two years of age, through adolescence and adulthood. Scientific research has established EMDR therapy as clearly effective for post-traumatic stress and trauma-related symptoms. Trauma may result from a single event, multiple

events or a series of events chronic in nature. Clinicians have also reported success using EMDR therapy in the treatment of the following conditions:

- Anxiety, panic attacks, and phobias
- Chronic Illness and medical issues
- Depression and bipolar disorders
- Dissociative disorders
- Eating disorders
- Grief and loss
- Pain
- Performance anxiety
- Personality disorders
- Sleep disturbance
- Substance abuse and addiction

C. TRAINING APPROACH

Using standardized procedures, EMDR therapy helps the client access stored memories, activate the brain's information system and, through reprocessing, helps move the disturbing information to an adaptive resolution. The model on which EMDR therapy is based, Adaptive Information Processing (AIP), posits that much of psychopathology is due to the maladaptive encoding of and/or incomplete processing of traumatic or disturbing adverse life experiences. This impairs the client's ability to integrate these experiences adaptively. The eight-phase, three-pronged process of EMDR therapy facilitates the resumption of normal information processing and integration. This treatment approach, which targets experience, current triggers, and future potential challenges, results in the alleviation of presenting symptoms, a decrease or elimination of distress from the disturbing memory, improved view of self, relief from bodily disturbance, and resolution of present and future anticipated triggers.

D. EMDR GOALS

The overall goal of EMDR therapy is to fully process pathogenic memories and experiences and sort out the emotions attached to those experiences. After effective EMDR therapy, the client is expected to experience:

- Relief from distress and physiological arousal
- Replacement of negative thoughts and feelings that are no longer useful, with positive thoughts and feelings that will encourage healthier behavior and social interactions.

[Learn more about EMDR at the EMDR International Association \(EMDRIA\)'s website.](#)

E. LEARNING COLLABORATIVE APPROACH

The objective of this Introductory Course in EMDR Basic Training is to support the adoption and implementation of EMDR by behavioral health organizations in Louisiana that serve trauma-exposed children and families. Over approximately one year, clinicians and supervisors will learn the EMDR model and how to implement systems and infrastructure for the long-term sustainability of EMDR.

Upon acceptance into the EMDR cohort, there is a **MANDATORY Orientation Meeting** scheduled for **Tuesday, July 29, 2025, from 12:00PM-1:00PM CDT**. It is necessary to attend this meeting to fully understand the scope and commitment of the EMDR online course.

This training consists of a total of 6 days of training, split into two 3-day consecutive training installments, which will be hosted online via Zoom. **This course consists of 40 hours of live, online instruction as well as 10 additional hours in group consultation to support the development of the trainees' understanding of EMDR therapy and their ability to use it.** All practitioners must have access to computers with webcams and a stable internet connection to participate in the course.

The goal of this training and implementation program is for participating Medicaid agencies to successfully implement EMDR into their agency and community. Providers should be able to demonstrate the capacity to identify and engage appropriate children and families for EMDR, deliver the model to fidelity, and sustain the model long-term.

Once the course is complete, clinicians will be highly recommended to continue pursuing national certification with EMDRIA.

F. EMDR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT MEETINGS

Agencies with clinicians accepted into this training opportunity will be expected to have agency leadership representation at three (3) separate EMDR-specific Agency Leadership Meetings. These meetings are intended to offer agency leadership support in supervising their staff who are learning and implementing the EMDR model. The meetings are also intended to give insight into the commitment to training and consultation expected of clinicians and will serve to assist leadership in working with their clinicians' schedule to ensure they are able to properly commit to the training requirements.

G. CONSULTATION CALLS

Following online training, practitioners will be expected to participate in consultation calls totaling to **twelve (12) hours**. After Part 1, trainees will participate in a 2-hr consultation call before attending Part 2. After Part 2, trainees will participate in 1-hr monthly consultation calls for up to ten (10) months. Trainees have up to a year after training begins to complete these calls. Participation in consultation calls is mandatory in order to become EMDR Basic-Trained. Additionally, clinicians who achieve EMDR Basic-Trained status will have the option to receive a free introduction to certification calls with the EMDR trainer, Carol Miles, as offered through the Center.

H. EMDR APPLICATION TIMELINE

<u>Event</u>	<u>Timeline</u>
EMDR Informational Webinar	Tuesday, May 13, 2025 from 12:00-1:00pm CDT
EMDR RFA Opens	Thursday, May 15, 2025
EMDR RFA Closes	Friday, June 20, 2025
Notice of Application Status	Tuesday, July 1, 2025

I. EMDR VIRTUAL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

<u>Event</u>	<u>Timeline</u>
EMDR Training Commitment and Textbook Request Form Due	Friday, July 18, 2025
EMDR Agency Leadership Meeting #1	Tuesday, July 22, 2025, from 12:00-1:00pm CDT
Mandatory EMDR Orientation Meeting	Tuesday, July 29, 2025, from 12:00-1:00pm CDT
EMDR Training Part 1	Wednesday, August 27- Friday, August 29, 2025, from 9:00am-5:30pm CDT
CE Eval for Part 1 Due	Friday, September 5, 2025
EMDR Agency Leadership Meeting #2	Friday, September 5, 2025, from 12:00-1:00pm CDT
EMDR Training Part 2	Wednesday, October 8-Friday, October 10, 2025, from 9:00am-5:30pm CDT
CE Eval for Part 2 Due	Friday, October 17, 2025
EMDR Agency Leadership Meeting #3	Friday, October 17, 2025, from 12:00-1:00pm CDT
Consultation Call Commitment	One 2-hr consultation call before attending Part 2 and monthly 1-hour consultation calls for up to 10 months following Part 2

CE Eligibility: *The total amount of hours for the EMDR training will be **approximately 40.0 hours** and participants will be eligible to receive up to **approximately 40.0 CE hours** if they participate in all training components and meet the online training requirements. Trainees missing more than 15 minutes of instruction outside of the scheduled break time on any given day of the training will be **ineligible** to receive continuing education credit.*

J. SUSTAINING EBP PRACTICE & ACHIEVING EBP QUALIFICATION

As soon as clinicians begin training, they are encouraged to identify potential cases with which they can begin practicing the model. Successful delivery and completion of the model with at least two different clients is necessary to become EMDR Basic Trained.

Following the completion of training and consultation, providers will be expected to independently sustain this EBP; including facilitating ongoing referrals and engagement, maintaining EMDR caseloads, and engaging in ongoing supervision and learning opportunities. Agency leadership will be expected to provide support to the EMDR program and the clinicians by ensuring that schedules are adjusted to meet the needs of all aspects of the EMDR program. Participants can review the [EBP Qualifications & Billing Guide](#) for further guidance.

3. APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

A. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Selection will be based on providing behavioral health services to Medicaid-insured children and families, organizational readiness for this EBP implementation, and relevance of this EBP to the population served by the applicant organization. **Preference will be given to agencies with multiple practitioners applying to be trained and demonstrated organizational leadership support for the EBP, in recognition of the training process EMDR entails and the necessity of inter-clinician support.** Organizations must also demonstrate an understanding of the necessary changes to a given clinician’s caseload in order for a Center for Evidence to Practice: Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) RFA

trainee to include EMDR in their schedule.

Training Acceptance Criteria: Qualified behavioral health agencies and practitioners will be those who serve Medicaid-insured individuals and/or provide clinical therapy services to children and their caregivers in Louisiana free of charge; are licensed (or actively working towards licensure); and are actively (currently) treating children and their caregivers.

Additionally, only complete applications will be considered. All applicants MUST submit a signed Agency Agreement with their EMDR application.

B. EMDR INFORMATIONAL WEBINAR

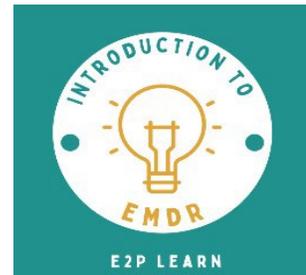
The Center for Evidence to Practice held an EMDR informational webinar on **Tuesday, May 13, 2025** where attendees had the opportunity to learn more about the modality and the training process. It was facilitated by Carol Miles, LCSW. A Q&A Session followed. This webinar and Q&A were recorded and will be posted on our EMDR webpage, [CLICK HERE](#) to view the Informational Webinar as well as access the PowerPoint slides and Q&A responses. Watching this webinar recording is highly encouraged prior to submitting any EMDR application materials, as it will be helpful in identifying if EMDR is the right fit for your agency, understanding the training requirements, and more.

C. INTRODUCTION TO EMDR ONLINE COURSE

In 2020, the Center for Evidence to Practice created an Introduction to EMDR Online Course. It was facilitated by Carol Miles, LCSW. Participating in this course is highly encouraged prior to submitting your EMDR application materials, as it will be helpful in identifying if EMDR is the right fit for your agency, understanding the training requirements, and more.

You can access the EMDR Informational Webinar through our [E2P Learn platform](#) accessible through our website where you can view

our Evidence-Based Practice Training courses. You simply need to create an E2P Learn account and enroll in the [Introduction to Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing \(EMDR\)](#). ***It is free to enroll, and you are eligible to receive CE credit hours after completing the course.*** By [CLICKING HERE](#), you can register onto the platform to enroll and complete the course. We hope this course is helpful to you.



D. APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

Upon receiving all of the applications, E2P staff will conduct an initial review to determine which applicants meet the threshold requirements outlined in the Eligibility Requirements. Following the initial review, the E2P staff will meet with the trainers and review the applicants based on their individual trainee application and agency agreement responses.

E. APPLICATION MATERIALS

Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) training is scheduled to begin in Summer 2025 with EMDR trainer and Consultant, Carol Miles, LCSW. **This EMDR Learning Collaborative is limited to fifty (50) clinicians.**

1. The **EMDR APPLICATION** is to be completed by each applicant and can be accessed by filling out the online application (through REDCap) by **CLICKING HERE**. **Please note, each EMDR Application must upload an Agency Agreement. The SAME AGENCY AGREEMENT must be uploaded for all EMDR Team members.
2. The **AGENCY AGREEMENT** is a fillable PDF and can be completed through **Adobe PDF (or a similar PDF viewing/editing software)** by leadership at the agency requesting participation in the EMDR training. The Agency Agreement must be signed by the Agency Director and a clinical Supervisor. You can access the **AGENCY AGREEMENT** by **CLICKING HERE**. **Please note: the SAME Agency Agreement MUST be submitted through the EMDR Application and all applicants from their respective agencies (i.e. all applicants from one agency must have the same Agency Agreement).**

BOTH FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED THROUGH THE EMDR APPLICATION BY JUNE 20, 2025, TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THIS TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

F. APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Please review the **Request for Applications (RFA) for Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR)** to be aware of training requirements and expectations.
- (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED) WATCH RECORDING OF THE INTRODUCTION TO EMDR COURSE OR ATTEND EMDR INFORMATIONAL WEBINAR**
To ensure applicants are aware of the training expectations and time commitment. Accessible on our E2P Learn Platform: <https://learn.laevidecetopractice.com/courses/introduction-to-emdr/>
- SAVE THE DATES:**
 - **EMDR TRAINING COMMITMENT DUE:** Friday, July 18, 2025
 - **MANDATORY ORIENTATION MEETING:** Tuesday, July 29, 2025, 12:00pm-1:00pm CDT
 - **EMDR PART 1 TRAINING:** Wednesday-Friday, August 27-29, 2025, 9:00am-5:30pm CDT
 - **EMDR PART 2 TRAINING:** Wednesday-Friday, October 8-10, 2025, from 9:00am-5:30pm CDT
 - **EMDR CONSULTATION CALLS:** Twelve (12) hours of consultation calls
- Submit an **EMDR APPLICATION** on behalf of yourself as an applicant. Acceptance into the program will be evaluated on an individual basis based on a fully completed trainee application and **AGENCY AGREEMENT** that must be completed on your behalf by your agency leadership. **The SAME AGENCY AGREEMENT must be uploaded for all clinicians from the same agency.**

G. NOTIFICATION OF APPLICATION STATUS

Applicants will be notified via email by **Tuesday, July 1, 2025**, regarding their status in the training.

H. NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY

The Center for Evidence to Practice appreciates diversity and does not discriminate based on race, national origin, ethnicity, religion, color, age, sexual orientation, sex, ability status, or gender identity.

Thank you for your commitment to serving Louisiana's children and families. We look forward to reading your application!